

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

DDMHS, Weeks Building, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05671-1601 (802-241-2638)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani
Monica Simon

DATE: July 27, 2001

RE: Community Contact After State Hospital Discharge

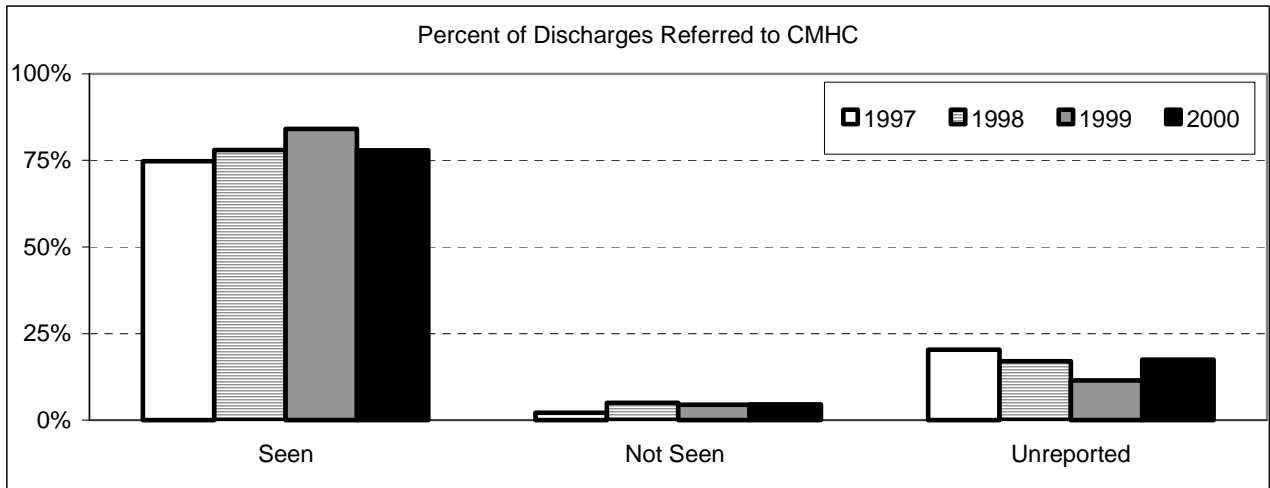
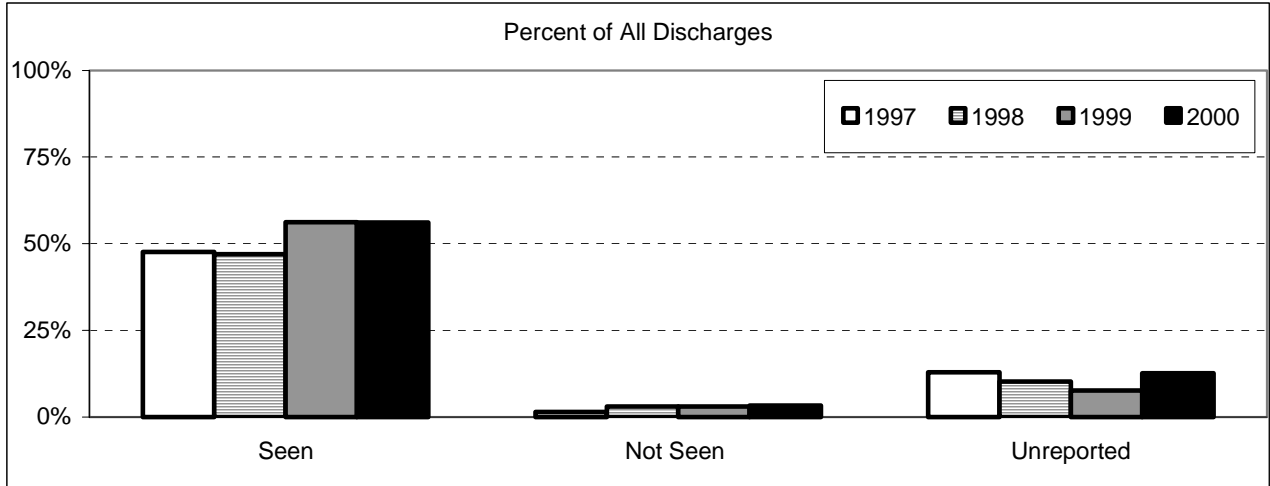
The Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project recently submitted data to the CMHS Sixteen-State Project on the rate at which Vermont State Hospital (VSH) patients have contact with community programs after discharge. The attached tables summarize the content of that report. The data were obtained from the quarterly Aftercare Referral Reports that are published by the VSH Medical Records Division. These reports are based on responses to mailings to CMHCs following discharge. This indicator of continuity of care is unique in that it is the only Sixteen State Project Indicator that explicitly links state hospital and community programs.

In a discussion about this indicator, a number of states expressed concern that a substantial number of state hospital patient discharges are not expected, for a variety of reasons, to be followed by contact with a community mental health program. Reasons for no community contact could include transfer to another inpatient facility, a correctional facility, or discharge out of state. For this reason, we have included rates of contact with community mental health programs for patients who had been referred to community mental health programs as well as rates of contact with community mental health programs for all discharged patients. In addition, a profile of reasons that patients were not referred to a community mental health program is included.

As you will see, about half of all patients discharged from the Vermont State Hospital and about three-quarters of the patients who were referred to a community mental health program have contact with a community mental health program. These rates are fairly consistent over the four-year period under examination. Information on contact with community mental health programs is not available for between 10% and 20% of the clients who were referred to community services.

We will appreciate your comments and suggestions for further analysis regarding contact with community mental health programs after discharge from VSH. Please contact us by e-mail at jpandiani@ddmhs.state.vt.us or by voice at 802-241-2638.

**Contact with Community Mental Health Centers
After Discharge From The Vermont State Hospital
Reported by Community Mental Health Centers
FY 1997 - 2000**

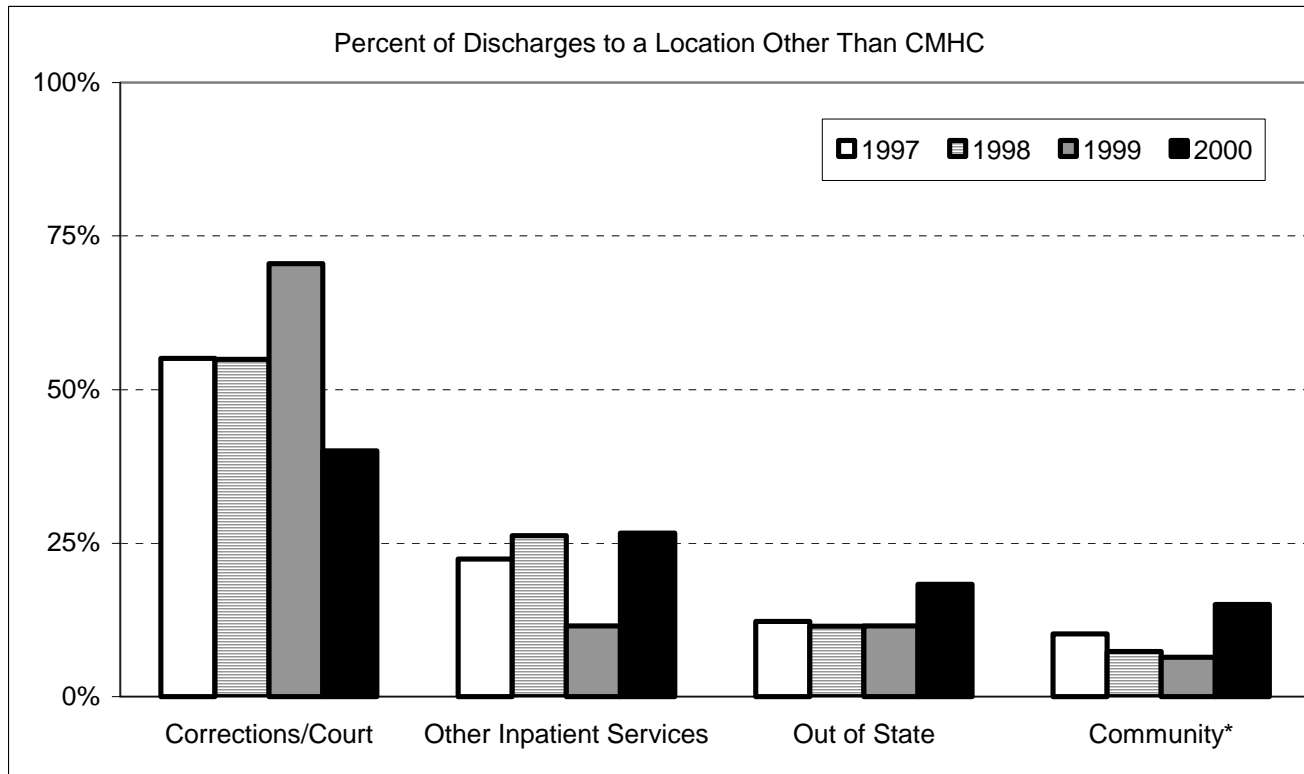


Fiscal Year	Percent of Total			
	Total Discharges	Seen	Not Seen	Unreported
2000	214	56%	3%	13%
1999	235	56%	3%	8%
1998	332	47%	3%	10%
1997	286	48%	1%	13%

Fiscal Year	Percent Referred to CMHC			
	Referred to CMHC	Seen	Not Seen	Unreported
2000	154	78%	5%	18%
1999	157	84%	4%	11%
1998	200	78%	5%	17%
1997	182	75%	2%	20%

Based on VSH Aftercare Referral Reports.

**Destination of Vermont State Hospital Patients
Discharged to a Location Other Than Community Mental Health Centers
FY 1997 - 2000**



Fiscal Year	Number of Discharges to Location Other Than CMHC			
	Corrections/Court	Other Inpatient Services	Out of State	Community*
2000	24	16	11	9
1999	55	9	9	5
1998	67	32	14	9
1997	54	22	12	10

Fiscal Year	Percent of Discharges to Location Other Than CMHC			
	Corrections/Court	Other Inpatient Services	Out of State	Community*
2000	11%	7%	5%	4%
1999	23%	4%	4%	2%
1998	20%	10%	4%	3%
1997	19%	8%	4%	3%

*Discharges to community not referred to a community mental health center.

Based on VSH Aftercare Referral reports.